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APEX COURT ALLOWS SERVICE OF SUMMONS VIA WHATSAPP

But, the SC refuses to name the service, keen not to repeat its earlier mistake of saying Xerox instead of photocopying

E-MAIL, FAX SERVICES CAN ALSO BE USED

"It has been brought to the notice of the court that it is not feasible to visit post offices for service of notices, summons, and pleadings" due to Covid-19, a bench headed by Chief Justice S A Bobde observed. Therefore, they shall be sent through e-mail or fax on the same day along with instant message like WhatsApp and other phone messenger services

SC REFUSES TO INTERVENE IN RBI'S DOMAIN

The bench noted that "two blue ticks on WhatsApp would convey that the receiver has seen the notice". On extension of cheque's validity, the bench noted, "We don't consider appropriate to interfere in the deadline prescribed by RBI. If RBI considers to extend, then they can do it"

SC
HAD TAKEN SUO MOTTO COGNIZANCE OF THE DIFFICULTIES IN SERVING NOTICES



Police at the site where ganglord Vikas Dubey was shot dead when he allegedly tried to flee after a car accident, near Kanpur on Friday | PTI

U.P. GANGLORD SHOT DEAD IN 'ENCOUNTER'

Police say he snatched a service pistol and tried to escape after car accident

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

A day after his dramatic arrest, UP's most wanted ganglord Vikas Dubey was shot dead at dawn by a state Special Task Force (STF) during an 'exchange of fire' while escorting him back to Kanpur from Ujjain on Friday. Dubey was arrested from the Mahakal temple by Ujjain police on Thursday.

On the intervening night of July 23, Dubey's henchmen had gunned down eight policemen, including a Deputy Superintendent of Police-level officer, during a raid at his house in Bikru village in Kanpur.

The police claimed the gangster was killed when he tried to escape after snatching a pistol from Inspector Ramakant Pachauri, who was escorting him in an SUV that toppled in Barr under Sanchedi police station in Kanpur.

The police claimed it had to open fire as Dubey was trying to flee while firing at the STF team accompanying him. Two constables and a sub-inspector were also injured in the firing. All of them were

taken to Lala Lajpat Rai hospital in Kanpur where the doctors declared Dubey dead upon arrival. He had received four bullet shots — three in his chest and one in the arm — doctors later informed.

His body was then sent for post-mortem, which was conducted by a team of three doctors while two videographers recorded it.

While the parents of the gangster disowned him and refused to accept the body, his brother-in-law performed the last rites in the presence of his wife and son in the evening.

Later in the day, the STF released a detailed account of the circumstances leading to Dubey's killing, to counter allegations of it being a fake encounter, as the gangster knew too much and could have revealed the police-criminal-politician nexus.

It tried to explain off the SUV's accident to an attempt by its 'tired' driver to swerve to avoid collision with a herd of cows and buffaloes that had suddenly come running across the highway.

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POLICE ENCOUNTERS

State	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-19 (upto Jan)
Andhra Pradesh	4	4	3	1	1
Assam	82	43	31	16	7
Maharashtra	11	3	8	10	9
Meghalaya	22	15	10	4	1
Odisha	6	7	9	6	13
Uttar Pradesh	7	5	4	44	21
Chhattisgarh	23	48	75	40	48

SOURCE: RIGID (RIGID) (2019)

Collapse of the criminal justice system is showing

KANU SARDA @ New Delhi

DESPITE the Supreme Court in 2014 setting out elaborate guidelines pertaining to police encounter killings, they keep happening ever so often, smearing the country's criminal justice system.

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), too, has mandated standard operating procedures for thorough, effective and independent investigation in such cases, yet some personnel in khaki appear to assume they are above the rule of law.

Supreme Court lawyer K V Dhananjay said, "Encounter killings are strictly prohibited in our system and in every other system that claims to follow the rule of law. The fact is we

have a formal system of law, police, lawyers, judges and courts to try and punish the guilty on the one hand while the same system is almost collapsing in numerous places on the other hand."

Expressing concern over the state of the criminal justice system he said, "Over the past few years, India has witnessed a steady rise in police encounter deaths and almost always, the police is never brought to book. India is now in a dangerous situation with the public cheering more lawlessness in the police."

On the way forward, he said, substantially overhauling the criminal justice system could end encounter deaths someday.

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CM in home quarantine after 3 staffers at 'Krishna' test +ve

ANUSHA RAVI @Bengaluru

KARNATAKA Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa has quarantined himself at his private residence in Dollars Colony after three persons posted at his official residence 'Krishna' tested positive for Covid-19. The Chief Minister, who held a cabinet meeting and also visited Karnataka's largest Covid care centre at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre on Thursday, cancelled all his engagements for Friday.

An electrician, a stand-by driver and a pilot vehicle staffer have tested positive. The CM's schedules have been marked as 'awaited' over the weekend. In a statement on Friday afternoon, Yediyurappa said that he was healthy and will continue to work from his residence. He will remain in home quarantine till next week as per protocol. "Since a few staffers at the official residence

'Krishna' have tested positive for Covid-19, I will be working from my personal residence for the next few days. I will hold meetings, consultations and issue orders and suggestions via video conferencing. There is no need to worry. I am healthy. I appeal to everyone to take all precautionary measures and follow protocols issued by the government. Wear masks and ensure social distancing and help us contain Covid-19," a statement from the Chief Minister said.

Officials in the CM's Office said that he will resume regular work from Wednesday after completing five days in quarantine. As of now, no visitors will be allowed at the CM's 'Davalagiri' residence. Two weeks ago, some security personnel posted at 'Krishna' had tested positive, following which the premises was sealed for sanitisation. The CM had shifted his meetings to Vidhana Soudha for two days.

Cong netas too lock themselves in

Several senior Congress leaders will have to undergo mandatory quarantine after attending a programme at the KPCC office on Thursday, where Jewarji MLA Dr Ajay Singh, who tested positive on Friday, was also present. Besides Singh, senior leaders H K Patil, B K Hariprasad, V S Ugrappa and Ramesh Kumar had participated in the programme. Singh said that he is asymptomatic and is taking treatment at his Bengaluru residence. He however requested his followers to go in for a swab test. **FULL REPORT: P. 3**

KARNATAKA COVID-19 BATTLE	2,313	33,418	13,836	543
TEST +VE ON FRIDAY	TOTAL CASES	TOTAL RECOVERIES	TOTAL DEATHS	

Exams only for final sem, other degree, PG students to be passed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

IN a move aimed at safeguarding students due to the surging number of Covid-19 cases, the State Government on Friday announced that all intermediate semester students pursuing degree and post-graduation courses, including engineering and diploma courses, will be promoted in the academic year 2019-20 without examinations. However, the examinations for the final semester students will be conducted before September-end as per University Grants Commission (UGC) guidelines. Deputy Chief Minister Dr CN Ashwath Narayan, who holds the Higher Education portfolio, said.

The KCET 2020 too will be conducted by the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) as per schedule on July 30-31.

"Intermediate semester students will be assessed based on a comprehensive evaluation scheme with internal assessment marks and previous year's/semester's marks considered in a 50:50 ratio. For students in their first semester/year, the evaluation will be completely based on internal assessment marks," Ashwath Narayan explained. **P. 7**

LAC: More talks, some sermons on peace

PUSHPAN HANAKAR AND MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

AMID a fresh round of diplomatic engagement by the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC) on Friday, Chinese Ambassador to India Sun Weidong said both countries need peace rather than confrontation. However, status quo will continue in Ladakh as for now, sources said.

"The militaries of India and China have disengaged about 2 km from their stand-off positions. The next Corps Commander meeting is scheduled in the coming week to discuss the disengagement from Depsang Bulge and total retreat from the Finger-4 area at Pangong Tso," sources said.

Referring to the violent face-off between Indian and Chinese troops on June 15 in Galwan Valley,

Sun said, "The right and wrong of what recently happened at the Galwan Valley is very clear. China will firmly safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity."

Earlier in the day, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh spoke with his coun-

Disengagement

At the WMCC meet, both sides said they will ensure complete disengagement of the troops along the LAC and de-escalation from India-China border

terparts in the United States and South Korea. The telephonic conversation with US Secretary of Defense Mark T Esper was initiated at the latter's request, sources said, adding they spoke on bilateral defence cooperation and issues of mutual interest. **P. 9**

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India's GDP to take ₹15 lakh crore dent due to pandemic

RICHA SHARMA @ New Delhi

INDIA'S overall GDP will take a ₹14.88 lakh crore hit from Covid-19, which will have a huge impact on employment across sectors, a white paper by the Ministry of Science and Technology says.

The document titled "Focused Interventions for 'Make in India'-post COVID-19" by the Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council

(TIFAC), an autonomous body under the Department of Science & Technology, analysed the pandemic's impact on various sectors.

"The expected import from China to India in FY20 is approximately five per cent of India's GDP, value amounting to ₹8.5 lakh crore. If a major portion of this import is replaced with indigenously developed products, it would significantly reduce

SECTORS EXPECTED TO TAKE A BIG HIT

Sectors	% of GDP	Employment (2018-2019)	Covid-19 Impact in 2020-2021
Apparel/Textiles	2	45 Million	Med-High
Auto	7-8	40 Million	High
Aviation and Tourism	11.4	6.3 Million	High
Building and Construction	~10	-	High
Retail	10	10% of total workforce	Med-High
Education and Skilling	3	-	Medium
Financial Sector (incl. Insurance)	9	-	Medium
Food and Agriculture	15	43% of total workforce	Medium
IT/ITe	30	11.4 crore (99% Micro)	High

the expected GDP loss. The same can be done by following China plus one policy, strengthening the 'Make in India' initiative in identified sectors," the document concluded.

The global shutdown and quarantine because of the pandemic has severely affected the supply side of the economy without collateral damage to the demand side and has impacted most sectors, noted the 84-page document.

"The supply side in the sectors of mining, manufacturing, construction, food, entertainment and recreation has been badly impacted whereas in sectors like agriculture, textile, electrical equipment, education and healthcare services, the demand is not so affected," it said, adding that in order to calculate the impact on demand, correlations between demand, lockdown and spread were taken into account. **P. 13**